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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 007961

SIPDIS

FOR ISN/MTR

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10 YEARS

TAGS: [ETTC](#) [FR](#) [KS](#) [KSCA](#) [MNUC](#) [PARM](#) [PREL](#) [TSPA](#) [MTCRE](#)

SUBJECT: MISSILE TECHNOLOGY CONTROL REGIME: 20 OCTOBER  
MEETING OF MTCR POINTS OF CONTACT IN PARIS

REF: STATE 192533

Classified By: EST Counselor Robert W. Dry for Reasons 1.5 (b) and (d).

1. (C) Summary: On 20 October 2005, ESTH/NP officer attended a meeting of the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) Points of Contacts (POCS) at the Spanish Embassy in Paris. This meeting focused on reviewing results of the September MTCR Plenary in Madrid and on briefing partners on the agenda for the coming months, to include MTCR outreach activities, status of intersessional TEM, progress on the EPOC system, and planning for the April 2006 RPOC in Paris. Next POC meeting was tentatively planned for early December.

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MTCR OUTREACH PLANS  
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2. (C) New Spanish MTCR Chair Manuel Viturro informed partners that he had received a Canadian request to participate in a November MTCR seminar in Singapore with host country officials. On the margins of the seminar, Chair hoped to engage in consultations with Malaysian authorities. Chair further advised that in 2006 he planned to visit India, Pakistan, China, and Israel, and has already been in contact with the relevant authorities in these countries. Initial feedback from Chinese, Pakistani, and Indian officials has been that no local (in-country embassy staff) will be allowed to participate in the consultations. Chair noted that Asia will remain a MTCR outreach priority during his tenure. In response to a question from the Argentinean representative, Chair commented that he had no plans to focus on Chile (in terms of informal cooperation) or Venezuela (as a country of potential concern), but would be open to engaging and/or focusing attention on these countries if partners made specific requests. On the margins of the POC meeting, the Argentinean representative told ESTH/NP officer that his government was interested in the MTCR Chair fixing attention on Venezuela, as Argentina had concerns about possible Venezuelan plans to enhance its missile program and was watching Venezuela's emerging cooperation with North Korea with keen interest.

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STATUS ON PLANNING FOR AN INTERSESSIONAL  
TECHNICAL EXPERTS MEETING (TEM)  
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3. (C) French POC informed partners that nothing had been confirmed in terms of an intersessional Technical Experts Meeting (TEM) prior to the April RPOC, and that the POC was still awaiting confirmation from the Germans regarding their willingness to host such a meeting prior to the RPOC in April. (In a side discussion after the meeting, Bertolotti told ESTH/NP officer that he would keep the Embassy apprised of any developments regarding this issue).

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PLANNING FOR THE RPOC IN APRIL 2006  
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4. (C) In regard to the April 2006 RPOC, Bertolotti called on partners to agree on an agenda and submit discussion papers for distribution to partners well in advance of the April RPOC in order to ensure as productive a meeting as possible. Above comments from French POC regarding the RPOC obviated the need for EST officer to make similar remarks. EST officer merely endorsed Bertolotti's comments.

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UPDATE ON ELECTRONIC POINT OF CONTACT (EPOC)  
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5. (C) As a final item, French POC commented that the system could accept another 6-8 partners as part of the current test phase, and invited interested partners to notify him as soon as possible if they want to be added to the system. He noted positive responses from the partners already using the system.  
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